THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of schemes and programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Women & Child Development in the States/UTs is including in the State of Uttaranchal and funds allocated under these schemes during the last three years are provided in the Annual Reports (2003-04, 2004-05 & 2005-06) of the Ministry which are available in the library of Rajya Sabha.

Promotion of Education in Border Areas

3069. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to promote education in the border areas of Punjab State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a comprehensive Programme for Universalisation of elementary education in the country covering all the 17 districts of Punjab. For the year 2006-07 an outlay of Rs. 232.78 crores has been approved for implementation of SSA in the State of Punjab.

The Government has opened 22 Kendriya Vidyalayas and 18 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in the State of Punjab, out of which 4 Kendriya Vidyalayas and 4 Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas are located in the border districts of Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Ferozpur.

Failure of SSA and Mid-Day Meal Schemes

3070. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry's report highlighted that almost all the States failed to utilise the funds allotted to them for implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-day meal programmes;

(b) whether most of the States returned 1/3 of their grants unutilised for the past two years;

(c) if so, whether his Ministry has decided to ramp up its monitoring efforts for full utilisation of the funds;

(d) whether Budget allocation has also been increased; and

(e) if so, the concrete steps taken for implementation of both the schemes during the current years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) No, Madam.

(c) Monitoring systems are already in place for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day Meal Schemes.

(d) The budget allocation including the North East Region component for SSA has increased from Rs 7800 crores in 2005-06 to Rs. 11000 crores in 2006-07 and for the Mid-Day Meal Scheme from Rs. 3345.26 crore in 2005-06 to Rs. 5348 crore in 2006-07.

(e) In both programmes the Government of India has ensured the early and timely sanctions of the Annual Work Plans & Budgets of the States/Union Territories (UTs)/districts for 2006-07. This provides States/ UTs ample time for proper implementation.

Recognition of certificates and degrees of Madarsas

†3071. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to grant recognition to certificates and degrees given by Madarsas being run in the country by Muslim institutions;

(b) the scheme of Central/State Governments for inspection, regulation and control on such Madarsas; and

(c) the scheme to ensure that the curriculum of these Madarsas is secular and not fanaticism-oriented?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.